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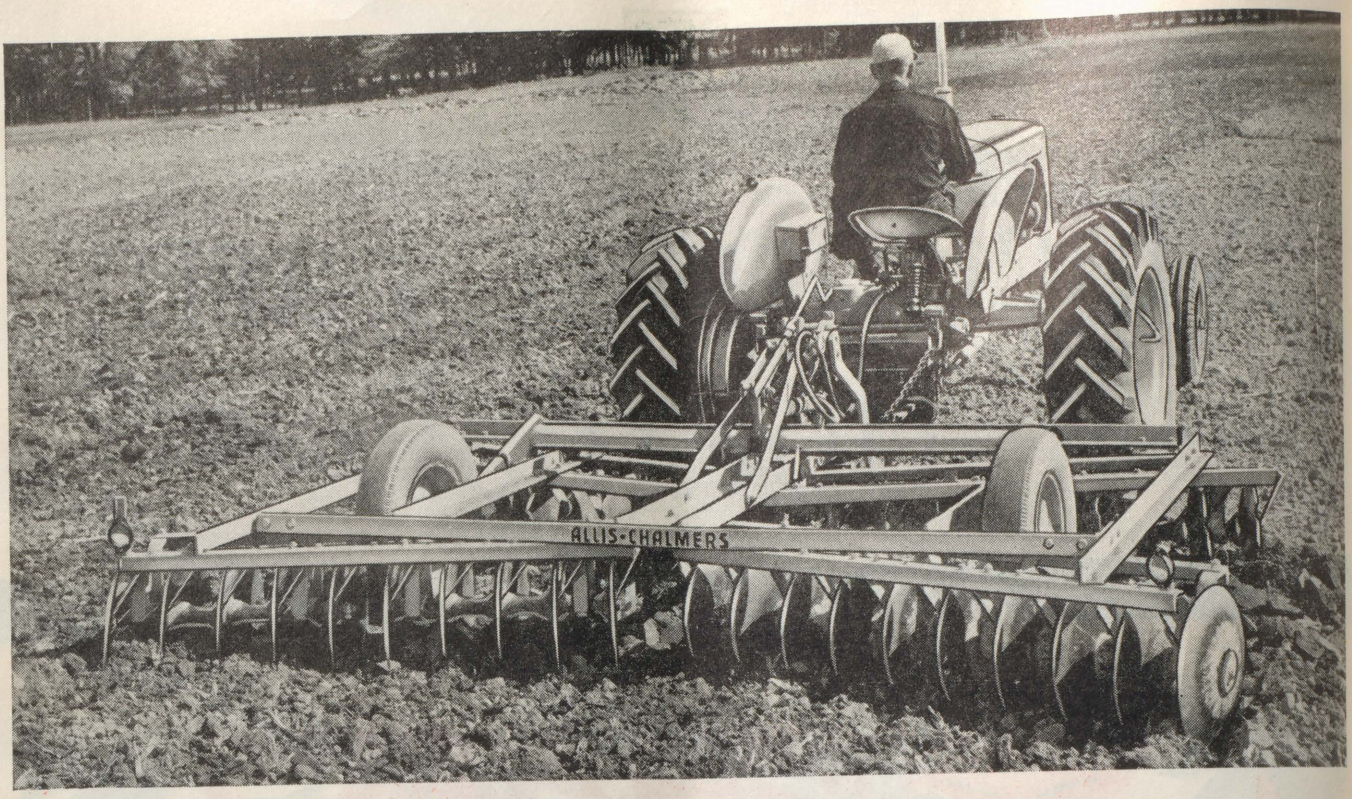
F A R M • S C H O O L • H O M E



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As we see it

Seasonal Thoughts

Christmas and the New Year! Again the time has come for the family gathering, the gaily decorated tree, feasting, the exchange of gifts, and the wonder and excitement of small children.

Folk living in the country, spared the excesses of commercialism, are less likely to become cynical about Christmas. City people, plagued at every hand by business promotion in the guise of tinseled trees, gay decorations, and recorded carols, may understandably complain that Christmas has become too commercialized. Yet no amount of advertising can really ruin the celebration for any of us.

In these few days of joyful living we respond freely to the kindness and generosity expressed by others. We find we are capable of surmounting the barriers of fear and prejudice which divide us one from the other. Without thinking or talking about it, we are able to discern something of the meaning of Christ's teaching and example for our own lives.

Christmas helps us see ourselves as we could be and are more capable of being, although few of us are saints and none of us is perfect. The struggle for the supremacy of good or evil within each one of us goes on continuously. No matter how much we might appreciate the sense of wholeness and well-being associated with this Season, we seem to experience little difficulty in reverting to our usual patterns.

Yet we know this is not good enough. With the survival of the human race in the balance, modern man can find refuge neither in flight or in fight. The threat of extinction by atomic warfare, political unrest, human suffering, material want, all demand our immediate concern. Like it or not, each one of us is drawn into the larger arena of national and international affairs.

"Peace on Earth and Goodwill Towards Men", the great Christmas Message, is heard throughout the world and must have meaning for all men. In its simplest terms it calls us to practice Brotherhood—each one of us each day.

Ralph J. Bunche, an American Negro, who has accomplished much in conciliation work for the United Nations in the explosive Near East has this to say: "It takes very little conscience to know that prejudice and discrimination against one's fellow humans because of race, or colour, or religion, or national origin, or cultural difference, or sex are morally wrong—thereby rendering it difficult, if not impossible, for them to make any significant contribution to humanity's progress."

The implications are obvious. We are to regard each man and woman as an individual. We are to judge each human being on his merits—his character and his personality. The fact he may belong to a different race, speak a different language, or practice a different religion are each irrelevant.

Brotherhood has been described as an "accomplishment of soul-searching, prayer, and perseverence requiring self-aware practice." As we go about our daily tasks we deal with other people. The quality of our relationships with them is the only real test of our humanity—our conscience the only examiner. This Christmas Season let us resolve to do our part to build a better world, starting where we can with ourselves.

On behalf of Macdonald College Staff the Journal wishes you

A Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

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The Derry Forge

by J. T. Davidson

In 1952 Tommy McBride shod his last horse to mark the end of an era—his own 60 years as an active blacksmith and 40 years by his father and grandfather in the same community. Gone now are most country blacksmith shops but memories of other days live on.

HOW WE THINK of a blacksmith depends on our earliest recollections of this hardy breed of men. My own impression is a kindly, jovial, soot-begrimed Santa Claus who always had a spare nickel for ice-cream or candy for the kids.

Eighty-two year old Tommy McBride now lives in retirement in the Ontario hamlet of Cold Springs where he has spent all his life. He still retains his local fame for story telling and kindness to children.

Others who think of blacksmith shops will recall the din of hammer in glowing metal, the sparks, the sizzle and acrid smell of scorched hoof as the shoe is fitted. And who could forget those farm machinery repairs effected without benefit of welding torch or standardized parts?

Those who know Tommy best recall how often a glowing shoe would be re-heated in the course of a story. On a good day for stories, his pipe drawing well, Tommy, tong in hand, would wave a red hot shoe for emphasis. Rarely did the shoe make a direct trip from forge fire to tempering tank if an audience were on hand . . . and there usually was.

A Long Line of 'Smithies'

The first blacksmith shop in Cold Springs was established in 1852 by Thomas McBride, Tommy's grandfather. The shop consisted of a rented corner of a repair shop owned by an enterprising tradesman. Tommy's father Richard, then unmarried but a trained blacksmith, emigrated from Ireland (County Down) in 1854.

Adventurous "Dick" had accepted a shilling to sign up on a British man-of-war destined for the Crimea. Members of his family still in Ireland had other ideas. The night before the warship sailed from Belfast harbour, Dick found himself stowed on board a schooner bound for America.

His passage across the North Atlantic in the gale season was a 3-month endurance test in a wretched overcrowded sailing vessel. So little headway was made in the first two weeks at sea, that the captain reported he could return to Belfast on the tailwind within 48 hours.

After the second week a period of comparative calm was enjoyed after the first big blow had spent itself.

100 Years of Service . . .

The old blacksmith shop at Cold Springs, Ont. That is Tommy McBride second from left.

A weary fed-up passenger registered this compaint with the captain "Pray tell where am I to sleep to-night? I have been using a sick man for a pillow these last few nights but now that he is well again, he'll not let me use him more." The captain's reply is not recorded for posterity.

To Derry Walls

Dick McBride's first home in Canada was at Rice Lake, seven miles from Cold Springs. Dick's faith in the Orange Lodge was such that the long trek on foot to meetings at the closest hall at Cold Springs was accepted as part of his new way of life.

In 1856 Thomas McBride decided to give up blacksmithing and go farming. Dick, now married with a family to care for, took over the business at Cold Springs. Soon a new shop was built on the corner promptly christened, appropriately enough, "Derry Walls-no surrender!" A shop of his own complete with Orange slogans and clashing iron seemed a fit setting for his fighting Irish spirit.

To this day local residents still go up to "Derry", as they call the upper part of the village, to shop at the only general store or get work done at Paul Harris' machine shop successor to the blacksmithing establishment of other times.

From Dick's shop, and a wood-working enterprise run by his brother-in-law, products of iron and wood flowed out—peg-tooth harrows, rollers, wagons, sleighs, and machines of unique design all useful to the farmers of the neighborhood. The "Derry Works", as the two businesses were called, must have been welcome additions to the community 100 years ago when this hilly, tree covered country was being developed.

Tommy learned the trade from his father and older brother Steve. His apprenticeship consisted of hiring out on farms in the summer at $5.00 per month and working in the shop in winter for his board. In 1892 he took over the shop on his own when his brother decided he preferred to farm.

For sixty long years Tommy shod draft horses, did forge and machine shop work. But he always had a soft spot for show and race horses. He had a fine reputation for correcting faults with special built-up shoes. Several prominent horseman made regular visits.

The Poetic Soul

One of Tommy's favourite stories involves the rather strange friendship of his Orange-Protestant father with a fiery Irish-Catholic by name of John Kelly. John was a reporter on the Cobourg Sentinel-Star, and among other things was a poetic soul who made verse of many news items

Seventy years ago, when this story takes place, the hills close by the "Derry Works" had just been cleared of their virgin pine. The huge stumps left behind were laboriously removed little by little each fall. Stump fences may still be seen in some places around this country, their weathered arms to the sky, picturesque but grim reminders of the back-breaking work involved in their removal.

Henry Ash, a local farmer, had a mare with colt with a bad reputation as a kicker. She was shod on the front feet but no one, not even the 'Derry Mayor' (as Dick McBride was fondly called), had dared to shoe her behind.

It was late fall, new fallen-snow made the footing treacherous, Henry had the mare hauling stumps and she slipped badly. In exasperation Henry ordered his hired man Joe Green to get her 'shod all-round'.

Miles McArthur, handyman in the shop but no expert on horse-shoeing, devised a plan for shoeing the horse. The smithy himself had given up and "Uncle Johnny" Rosevear had been belted firmly out the door by the enraged mare. Willy Rosevear, a calmer man who 'just happened to be around', convinced the others to give Miles' device a try. Here is how the mare was shod as duly recorded by John Kelly who was visiting "Derry" at the time.

How the Mare was Shod

by John Kelly

On Monday last the Derry forge
Was roaring in full blast.
The anvil din through vale and gorge
Was born upon the blast.

Then out spoke Henry to his man:
"This horse must needs be shod,
Upon the ground she cannot stand
To pull the stumps a rod."

So Joe at once, without delay,
For Derry works was bound..
He soon arrived and there did say
"I want her shod all round"

The Mayor at once did doff his coat.
The job was soon begun.
The fore-feet shoes were soon pulled off
And then began the fun.

Then to her hinder props he went,
His face be-grimed with soot,
"Hold up" he says as down he bent,
"No tailor (green-horn) has your foot."

Willy, standing now on deck:
"She seems a sulky brute!
I'd put a rope around her neck
And tie her head to foot."

A rope was placed upon the foot;
A ring tied on the tail;
And through the ring the rope was put,
And this plan did not fail.

For every time the horse did kick
The tail was sure to nod.
The shoes were soon put on by Dick
And Henry's horse was shod.

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Future Dairy Cows are Calves To-day . . .

Start the Youngsters Right

by A. R. Ness

In this article, Professor Ness discusses the essential points in raising dairy calves. They need a healthy start in life if they are to develop into good heifers.

DAIRY CALVES from birth on are fed and reared in a number of different ways. Many of them unfortunately do not get a very good start in life. The ability to breed, feed and raise calves successfully is of great importance in keeping the mature milk-producing herd up to strength. These calves will grow and develop into the cows to take the place of those cows which for one reason or another are sold or discarded from the herd. On the average, four to five calves need to be selected and raised each year for a herd of twenty milking cows. That means from 20 to 25% replacement takes place annually in the milking herd. Occasionally these replacements are purchased but the majority of dairymen have found out from their own experience that it is easier to maintain a healthy, disease-free herd when they breed and raise their own calves, selected from their own best cows.

The Condition of Cow Important

Good feeding practice really starts with the in-calf or pregnant cow. An abundance of green pasture in the summer, and good quality legume hay with some grain, depending on the condition of the cow, in the winter will supply the needs of the cow and her unborn calf. There is no need to keep the cow thin, as was once the practice hoping to avoid milk fever. It is actually more difficult to raise calves from cows that have been poorly fed than from cows that have been liberally fed in preparation for their next year's work. The health and tone of the cow is safeguarded if at calving time all heavy feeds are replaced in her diet with such mildly laxative feeds as bran and a little linseed oilmeal.

Greater chances of everything going well at birth and of insuring future well-being can be expected, if a clean, disinfected and well-bedded box stall is provided. Many calves are born in the gutter, but those that do thrive and do well do so in spite of, rather than because of, the place of birth. The exact date of when the cow is due to calve should be known by the attendant, as it will allow him to watch carefully and give assistance, if necessary.

Care After Birth

When the calf is born the mucus and any other material

Well Developed Calves Enjoying a Paddock In June.

This picture was taken on June 15th and the three calves were born Nov. 7, Nov. 19 and Dec. 29, which makes their average age about 200 days.

should be removed from the mouth and nostrils. It may be necessary in certain cases to assist the calf to start breathing. This can be done by means of several sharp slaps on the lower area of the fore ribs or by compressing and relaxing the chest wall with the hands. In most instances the calf will be licked dry by the cow. But in cases where the mother is slow in caring for the calf it should be rubbed dry by hand, using a bran bag or, failing a suitable cloth, even dry straw. A strong robust calf will be on its feet and nursing within one or two hours. Some help should be given to ensure this early feed. It is very important in order to get a proper start in life to make sure that the calf gets the first milk or colostrum. This first milk provided by nature acts as a laxative and cleans out the digestive tract at the very start; it is rich in vitamin A which promotes growth and protects the calf against early infections.

Many discussions are carried on as to whether or not the calf should be allowed to nurse or be fed by pail. This is probably not very important as long as the calf receives its mother's colostrum. Most dairy men leave the calf with the cow for at least the first day. Thereafter, it should continue to be fed its own mother's milk at least until such time as the milk is fit for human consumption, or about one week. The quantity of milk fed at this time is important. If the cow is a good milker, the tendency is to give it to the calf. This practice frequently leads to over-taxing the digestive organs of the young animal. It is much better to under-feed than to run the risk of over-feeding, especially during the first week. There is a rather safe rule that can be followed which is to feed one pound of milk per day for each ten pounds of live weight of calf. Even this rule must be used with

good judgment on the part of the feeder. For instance, with milk rich in fat it is well, at least during the first week, to feed below rather than up to the quantities prescribed by the rule.

Housing

Frequently very little provision is made, except on the larger dairy farms, for a calf pen. The result is that the calf is found housed in almost every conceivable type of place in the stable. As a matter of fact, it is not an easy matter to provide satisfactory housing for the young calf, especially during the winter. Although expensive housing is not necessary, the calf will thrive best if placed in dry quarters with dry bedding and away from all draughts. It is a wise precaution to keep each new born calf by itself and not allow it to have contact with other calves for at least one or two weeks. There may be some infection present and the young calf may even die, in which case protection against spread of the trouble to others has been provided. Furthermore, the very bad habit of sucking does not get the same chance to develop. A little later when exercise is more necessary; calves of similar age can be housed in larger pens in small groups of two, three or even four.

Start Grain and Hay Feeding Early

At two weeks of age, the calf should be fed some grains or calf starter. It will quickly acquire the taste, if the grain is placed in the pail immediately after the milk has been consumed. When the pail has been removed, place a little more grain in a box or manger. Managed in this way, calves penned together will not be as likely to try to suck each other, and they will be encouraged to eat grain at an early age. Equal parts of crushed oats and wheat bran to which is added 10% linseed oil meal is a suitable and simple mixture for starting the calf on grain. At this age also the calf should be offered some good quality leafy clover or alfalfa hay.

Make Changes Carefully

Dairy calves need not necessarily be fat, but should be maintained in a thrifty growing condition at all times. To insure this thrifty state, feed regularly and avoid making sudden changes in the feed. The change from whole milk to skim milk or other substitutes, for instance, requires fully two weeks, substituting a small amount of the new feed for an equal amount of the whole milk until the complete transfer is made. The drink should be fed at the same temperature at each feeding and preferably at body temperature. At all times cleanliness of drinking pails, of mangers and of pens is necessary, as well as careful feeding, to insure a healthy start in life.

Front Porch Professor

One way to find the best tractor tire is to try out each brand for yourself. But the trial and error system is pretty inefficient and expensive.

We suggest you ask the man who's been farming all his life. Find out what brand of tractor tire *he* prefers over all others.

He'll tell you Goodyear Super Sure-Grips will do the same work in less time than other brands—or more work in equal time. Obviously, the tires preferred by most Canadian farmers are the tires for you to buy.

GOODYEAR SUPER SURE-GRIP TRACTOR TIRES

Is There a Farm in Your Future?

Farm Economists seem to agree that the future for farming looks good. There are a few "ifs and buts" which are here summarized for Journal readers. The present situation is also reviewed with a discussion of production costs and the farmer's return for his labour . . .

BY 1975 the average Canadian farm will produce more fodder and grain per acre, carry more livestock, be stocked with more productive animals and turn out considerably more marketable produce per farm with less labour than is the case at present. Greater investment in land and buildings, and in livestock, machinery and the other production items will be required but it looks like better times for farmers in the future.

Within the next twenty years it is estimated that production of most farm products will be up by 50 percent to meet the needs of a possible 22 million people. Our only exportable surplus forseen at that time will be wheat. If predictions of economic experts turn out, the needed increased food production will result from more intensive farming on the same, or possibly somewhat less, acreage of farm land. With even fewer people in farming to share the higher returns from increased production, the share for each farmer should be quite attracive.

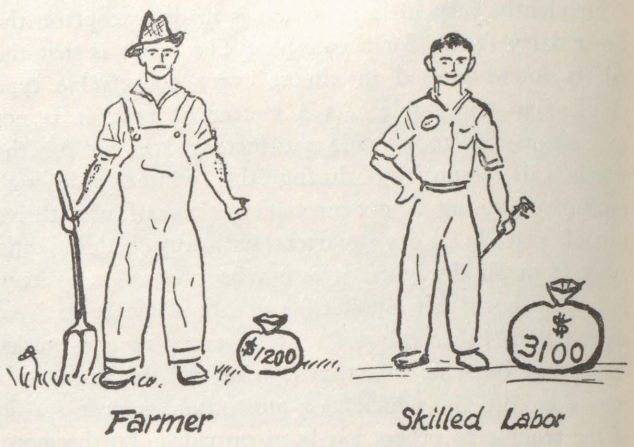
Now those who dare to prophesy usually hedge their predictions to protect themselves. Economists are no exception! This predicted farm prosperity depends upon continued industrial expansion, and high employment at good wages and salaries. Short term business recessions of even a few months duration have bad effects on agriculture. These periodic recessions, occurring often enough, could hold back the farming developments envisaged for the future. Adjustments to change are very slow in agriculture compared to industry.

If we fail to market a good deal of our one billion bushels of wheat, if defence spending is curtailed very much, or if the present boom in the construction industry tapers off, recovery of farming from its present depressed condition will be further delayed. The present situation, in different forms, could be repeated over the next 20 years even if we have no general depression.

Billion-Dollar Bills

Canadian farmers now spend well over a billion dollars a year (1 billion 200 million in 1954) on farm operating expenses. This figure includes expenditures on farm machinery, fertilizers, building repairs, spray materials, seed, feed, farm taxes, rents, wages, and miscellaneous items

Comparison Annual Wages Farmers and Skilled Workers



With most farms mechanized these days, and production sold off the farm for cash, it is not possible to cut down very much on cash expenditures for operating the farm. The cost-price squeeze on farmers can be measured by the net farm income which in 1951 was $2,189 millions but in 1954 had slipped to $1,126 millions or just about half.

Farmers' Labour Income Less than Workers'

By the end of this year it is predicted that Canada's 575,000 farmers will each have received, on the average, $1400 less for his year's work than the average non-farmer. The disparity is even greater when average hours of work are compared. But it should be recognized that large stock piles of unmarketed western grains had a lot to do with this disparity in average incomes.

In the 10 years from 1942-1951, a period of relative prosperity for farmers, farmer and non-farmer incomes averaged just about the same ($1600). Since then, average non-farmer income has gone up by $1000 per year while the farmer's labour-income has fallen by $400. The present break in farm labour-return came in 1954 when the average fell from $2254 in 1953 to $1200 and it is not expected to rise this year.

It must be pointed out that the present $1200 figure for a farmer's labour return is calculated by allowing the farmer 5% interest on his invested capital. This added as income to the labour return gives a net farm income of about $2000 per farmer in Canada. But even so it is not too encouraging to find that the average individual worker's annual earnings before taxes is over $3,000 a year, with no money invested, and with all management decisions made for him by higher-paid executives and technical specialists.

Carving Poultry at the Table

by W. A. Maw

THE CARVING of poultry or game at the table is an operation that most people enjoy doing well. A simple understanding of the correct procedure with the proper equipment will make the work a pleasure. The equipment necessary is a sharp, long-bladed carving knife, a carving fork, a serving spoon for the dressing, a steel for sharpening the knife, and a small side platter for the handling of parts, such as the legs or wings, which should be cut up for serving. The aim in carving poultry, which has both dark and white meat, is to serve equal portions of both kinds unless otherwise requested.

The slicing of the white or breast meat of the fowl is either thick or thin depending upon the size of the carcass. The general practice is to cut thick slices when you carve the turkey or goose. Cleancut slicing is essential for neatness and satisfaction, although it is only possible when a sharp knife is being used and the carcass has not been overcooked. The aim should be to slice so neatly as to allow for the replacement of the slices on the carcass in a tidy fashion. Carve only one side of the carcass at a time and serve before starting the other side.

To start, place the carcass on the platter with the breast to the carver's left side. Place the fork in the carcass, pointing to the rear, at midpoint on the breast on the far side of the bird. The fork is removed for use in cutting up the leg and wing meat then replaced to slice the breast meat.

The first operation is to remove the leg completely by making a cut through the skin between the body and thigh and around the hip joint. Disjoint the leg at the socket with the tip of the knife. Transfer the leg to the small platter and cut up for serving in two main sections: thigh and drumstick. Slice the meat off the drumstick and cut the thigh meat into several sections, depending on the size of servings to be made (small carcass large sections, and vice versa for large birds).

Remove the wing by cutting through the joint of the wing at the shoulder. (Third joint or outer tip of wing is discarded). Divide the wing into two sections for serving.

The breast or white meat is sliced after the leg and wing have been prepared for serving. Slice as the plates are being served. The reason for this is to prevent the thin slices from becoming cold. Slice the full length of the keel and breast to make full-sized slices in natural shape. The dressing is served as the white meat is served. Make a horizontal cut across the abdominal section to allow for easy removal of the dressing. Serve with a medium sized spoon

After the one side has been completely carved, proceed on the second side in a similar fashion. At this time the carcass may be reversed on the platter for convenience that is placing the front of the bird to the operator's right. Do not serve all the meat on the carcass at the first serving—allow for a possible second serving.

For details see page of
Photographs inside back cover

Care of Christmas Plants

MANY PEOPLE receive gifts of potted plants, such as azaleas, cyclamen and poinsettias, at Christmas. These are extremely beautiful plants and the owner often hopes to extend their period of bloom as long as possible and also to get them to bloom again the next year.

Azalea

The azalea will not go on blooming indefinitely, but it can be preserved for one more season. Extreme care must be taken in watering. The fine roots may be quickly damaged from lack of water and yet the plant will not thrive if the soil is kept soaked.

As soon as the plant is received it should be examined for dryness. This is done by turning the pot upside down and rapping the rim sharply on a wooden structure to extract the plant from the pot. Replace the plant in the pot and tap the base of the pot on something to place the root ball firmly in the pot. If the roots appeared dry, the plant should be placed in a pail of water so that the water reaches halfway up the pot. When the surface of the soil appears damp the plant is placed in a cool window. Do not place near a radiator.

After the flowers fade and fall the remaining flower stalks should be cut off with a pair of scissors. The plant is then placed in a warm light window and sprayed often with an atomizer to promote new growth and discourage insects.

When in the spring, there is no longer any danger of frost, the plant may be put outdoors in a shady place.

Plunge the pot in a bed of gravel to prevent the plant from drying out and to prevent earthworms from entering the pot through the drainage hole in the bottom. In the fall the plant is brought indoors to a cool window and must be watered regularly. Try to keep the roots evenly moist at all times. Do not try repotting an azalea, and keep it only as long as there are enough live branches to form a head.

Cyclamen

A cyclamen plant will retain its blooms longer if kept cool and away from radiators. It also will benefit from spraying the leaves with a fine mist of water. Wilted leaves are a good indication of dryness, although the cyclamen does not require as much care in watering as some of the other gift plants. After the flowers have fallen, the plant should be watered as usual and the flower stems cut off to prevent the formation of seeds.

Reduce the water supply in May and in June place the plant outdoors in a shaded place. Cyclamen, and any other potted plant that is put outdoors during the summer, should be sunk in the ground to prevent excessive evaporation through the porous clay pot. When new leaves appear on the crown of the cyclamen, it should be repotted. This is done by removing the plant from the pot, shaking the soil away from the roots and repotting the plant in a suitable sized container, usually a 5-inch clay pot. The soil should be 3 parts loam, 1 part leaf-mould or peat and 1 part sand. Press the soil as firmly as possible around the roots. When the planting is finished, the upper surface of the corn should be exposed. Put the plant outdoors again and water thoroughly. At the end of August transfer the plant indoors to a cool window and apply one half teaspoonful of a complete fertilizer at two week intervals when the leaves are fully expanded.

Poinsettia

The poinsettia is probably the most popular Christmas plant, and being a tropical plant it is at its best when kept in a fairly warm room of even temperature. This plant should only be watered when it is distinctly dry and luke-warm water should be used. When the leaves have fallen, the plant should be transferred to the basement and kept dry until spring.

In May the stalks should be cut down to about four inches of the base and the cut ends dipped in powdered charcoal. The poinsettia should then be repotted in soil as recommended for cyclamen and in a pot slightly larger than the original pot. The plant is then placed in a warm sunny window and not watered until a couple of days later at which time it should be thoroughly soaked. After that water sparingly until signs of growth are seen. When growth buds appear, rub off all but one or two of the most robust as only one or two stalks are desirable in order to get large bracts, which are the so-called flowers of the poinsettia. During the summer the plants should be in a bright sunny window, but not close to the glass, and care should be taken to keep the plant away from drafts. When a reddish tinge appears on the terminal leaves apply a half teaspoonful of fertilizer to the plant.

Although a poinsettia plant may be kept for several years in this manner, each year it gets larger and less attractive. It is possible to start new young plants from the stems that have been cut off in May. These are made into 6-inch cuttings with the bottom end cut square and close to a node. The cut at the other end should be slanting and made between two nodes. Dip the cut ends in charcoal and insert the basal ends in clean sand around the inside edge of a small sized clay pot. Place the pot in a sunny window and keep the sand moist but not too wet. As soon as the cuttings have rooted they should go into 3-inch pots of sandy soil and when well established into 5-inch pots. Treatment that follows is the same as for cut-back plants.

It is no easy matter to get gift plants to grow well under the conditions usually found in our homes during the winter months. Generally the house is too warm and too dry, but the plants are so attractive at this time of the year when nothing grows outdoors, that most people are only too happy to make the effort and try and keep houseplants in as good condition as possible.

PATRICIA HARNEY.

World Butter and Cheese Prices

A survey has been made by the U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service on the wholesale price of butter and cheese in various markets. All prices were quoted in April and are U.S. equivalents.

The survey shows that in London, New Zealand finest grade butter has been selling at 42.6 cents a pound, three cents below a year ago. In Sydney, Australia the choicest grade butter is 41.4 cents, the same as a year before. In Denmark the price is 43.7 cents, slightly below a year ago.

The highest butter price reported is in Paris for Charentes Creamery butter which is selling for 81.6 cents a pound about 15 cents more than a year ago. Belgium also has a high price with 72.8 cents. United States 92 score creamery butter in New York sells for 57.9 cents a pound, and in Canada at Montreal the price for first grade creamery butter is 59.2 cents a pound. The U.S. and Canadian prices increased fractionally over a year ago.

For cheese in London, New Zealand's Finest White sold for 18.7 cents a pound, more than nine cents below one year ago. Cheddar is selling in United States for 31.8 cents a pound, up slightly from a year ago. In the Netherlands full cream Gouda sells for 24.5 cents a pound, up three cents from a year ago. In Canada, Ontario white sells for 30.4 cents, up fractionally from a year ago.

With The Growers . . .

New Method Shows Irrigation Needs

THIS PAST summer the drastic drought cost farmers millions of dollars in crop losses. Even small fruit and vegetable growers with irrigation systems often found water they applied to the crop was too little and too late.

Irrigation has been called an art as there is no substitute for judgment and experience. One reason that this summer offered difficulties, even for experienced operators of irrigation equipment, was the excessively high temperatures experienced. Ordinary dry hot summer exhausts the moisture reserve from cropped soil at a rate 2/10 to 3/10 of an inch per day. You can see you have to be a good judge to calculate how much moisture is added by rain or irrigation and how much is lost by evaporation every few days.

A portable battery operated resistance measuring instrument known as the "Delmhorst Moisture Detector" is being used successfully at the Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers University, in New Jersey, to measure the soil moisture in the root zone of growing crops. The system is simple and quite inexpensive.

Gypsum blocks, with wires attached on each side of the block, are buried in the soil in various parts of the cultivated field at from 6 to 12 inches in the soil. Depth depends on how deep most of the roots of the crop penetrate. When the gypsum blocks absorb moisture, electricity from the portable Detector flows through easier. A high reading for soil moisture is indicated on the instrument. When the block is drier current from the detector will encounter greater resistance to its flow through the gypsum block. The indicator will then show a low soil moisture content.

In both the 1954 and 1955 droughts in New Jersey this system proved a fast and dependable guide to soil moisture needs. One and one half inches of water were applied at each irrigation. Repeat irrigations were called for when half the detector blocks in the field indicated low soil moisture again. Another advantage to the system is that the effect of rains can be known accurately. You can tell how far down the rain penetrated and will know how effective it has been in restoring moisture to the soil.

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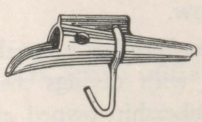
Apple Growers Should Use Brand Names

"One of agriculture's greatest handicaps is the relative absence of brands in a brand-minded nation" in the opinion of F. R. Wilcox, assistant general manager of Sunkist Growers, Inc., the giant co-operative citrus fruit exchange with headquarters in Los Angeles, California. British Columbia Tree Fruits Ltd. has proved that brand name advertising works for apples as Quebec growers are well aware.

Who is not familiar with the promotional campaigns of the B.C. fruit exchange with its full page advertisements, radio plugs, and giant billboards? In city supermarkets special prices on B.C. Delicious, Newtons, etc. are features of the week. Thus they get free promotion by the supermarkets themselves in their advertising and store displays. The B.C. farmer reaps the benefit too because B.C. Tree Fruits is organized along co-operative lines under a Marketing Act naming the organization sole marketing agency for the growers. Make no mistake about it packaging and fruit quality is rigidly controlled. The Quebec consumer identifies B.C. apples as "the best in apples at a fair price."

Any apple grower or co-op manager not familiar with B.C.'s aggressive sales promotion should watch for their advertising campaign. Take a trip to Montreal and go into one of the big supermarkets. You will see for yourself how excellent Quebec apples, usually unmarked and unnoticed, are by-passed by the consumer for the B.C. product. Consumers have been convinced that the B.C. apples are a better buy. How long are Quebec growers and their co-operatives going to tolerate the situation before they too sell under one brand name?



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School and Community . . .

A Comment on Education and Rural Living

DOES THE CHILD exist for the school or does the school exist for the child? Likely neither one is true. The school exists to serve the community.

Our rural schools have the advantage of being more closely identified with their communities than is usually the case with urban schools. With one-room Protestant rural schools reduced to less than 90 since the war, our rural school system in Quebec is rapidly approaching the best that can be offered with respect to school facilities and trained teachers. The growth of the rural composite school idea and centralized school administrations has been phenomenal in Quebec—far faster than in any other province.

Any school exists to pass on the ideals of our democratic society and prepare the student to take his place in community life. Pupils are prepared for future responsibility through the lessons taught and the skills used by the teacher to involve young students in the process of learning.

Life in the modern world demands more of our schools, —of our teachers, students, taxpayers, and parents—far more than even a very few years ago. Whether a student hopes to farm, work in a profession, or find his way in the business world, he must have an educational background that equips him to cope with ever-changing conditions. And what is more important to develop a desire to continue learning and accept new ideas when he becomes an adult.

Some farm people, critical of our schools, claim they educate children away from the farm. It is very unlikely that this happens in fact. The fault is more apt to lie in the lack of interest that we take in school affairs especially now that we have so many rural composite schools. How often have we failed to help our teachers understand and appreciate the values of farm and small community life?

Home and School Associations, Farm Forums, and Women's Institutes all are adult organizations concerned with education. These are the local groups in which knowledge and understanding of the local school and its problems can be discovered. Too often our teachers and school authorities are subjected to unfair criticism which could easily be turned to profitable partnerships. The benefit of the whole community is at stake. We should take the trouble to become informed and active in educational affairs.

"Not For Profit — Not For Charity — But For Service"

That's the slogan of Canada's 3,500 Credit Unions, who celebrated International Credit Union Day on October 20. This is a good time to look at the philosophy which has made them grow and prosper.

Members operate Credit Unions not for profit, but to help one another. All earnings over expenses and reserves are returned to members. Most Credit Union Officers serve without pay.

Credit Unions encourage habits of thrift and systematic saving. Members borrow money for worthwhile purposes at a low interest rate from their own organization which was expressly designed to help them help themselves. Loans are primarily based on the borrower's good character, and losses are extremely low.

Service is the keyword. Many a member has been able to buy or improve his own home with savings made possible through these self-help, membership owned and operated associations. Many a loan has enabled a man to take advantage of opportunities. Many a loan has been made for needed medical and dental care and family emergencies.

Credit Union people can be proud of their 107 year history as they celebrate this year. There are now over 20,500 Credit Unions in North America, with more than nine million members.

During the past year Credit Unions have been giving special help to underdeveloped countries where widespread poverty and usury combine to keep the people in virtual slavery. Credit Unions are being organized in these areas as a means of economic liberation.

More Trouble for Canadian Exporters of Farm Products!

Several changes have been proposed for Public Law 480 under which United States accepts local currency instead of dollars for surplus farm products.

At present the law says $700,000,000 may be spent in moving the surpluses to other countries for local currencies. A proposal has been made by the U.S. Senate to increase this figure to $1,500,000,000.

The proposal also would remove the limitation by year or by country. Under the suggestion Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson would have authority to decide what commodities are in surplus and should be offered for sale under the P.L. 480, and for what price.

* * *

A prominent New Zealand newspaper, the "Dominion" published at Wellington, has protested editorially against U.S. trade policies in dairy products.

The "Dominion" complained about the U.S. release on the world market of ten million pounds of non-fat dry milk solids below the support price. The newspaper said this was dumping, and it added that at the same time the U.S. is imposing embargoes on imports of dairy products.

FARM FORUM
News and Views

Edited by Leslie G. Young
Provincial Secretary

Notes on Discussion Topics

Following the "Teacher or Sitter" discussion Shawville West decided to invite the local School Supervisor to answer questions on the Central School Board and also outline the duties of the local School Board under the present school system. It must have been a success for Mr. Corrigan completed his report with this note: "He told us so many things we didn't know!" Other forums had teachers, school board members, and inspectors at their meetings as guests and to answer questions on the topic.

Sawyerville forum decided to contact neighbouring forums to see what they could do about purchasing new and better equipment for fighting fires when they occur some distance from the village water supply. As another development from the same topic, "Fire On The Farm" Vinton wrote requesting information on where fire-fighting equipment for a rural community could be obtained. Bulwer invited the Southern Canada Power representative to speak to them on fire prevention in connection with electricity, at their first fourth night meeting. Many forums had firemen as guests for their topic.

"Signs For Local Roads" was the theme for a discussion in the Gore forum following the broadcast, "Does Local Government Still Work?" On the same topic Sawyerville wanted to know what other forums thought of having the Central School Board more along the lines of the county council. Apparently they felt that school government machinery had become so complicated that they no longer had a direct voice in school affairs and were also out of contact with the board.

Dalhousie reported that at their fourth night meeting they had planned a panel discussion on "Rural Youth Plans Its Future" for the following fourth night. Mansonville and North Potton met together and a director of the Brome County Co-operative Medical Service answered questions on that organization. Vinton held an open meeting in an effort to start four new forums in their immediate vicinity. Four forums met at Rawdon to view films and ask questions of the C.I.P. Co. representatives on woodlot management. Numerous forums held card parties and social evenings.

Forum Whisperings

An excellent example of the community spirit prevalent in rural areas is shown by activities of three forums; High and Low Forest, Dalhousie, and Highland. High and Low Forest sponsored, with community aid, a benefit dance for a member of a neighbouring forum who was hurt in a barn-raising accident. Receipts totaled $1045.53!

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Dalhousie forum members staged a ploughing bee for a sick non-forum member neighbour and completed his fall ploughing in one day. An unfortunate family received a Christmas gift from Highland forum.

West Pontiac forums are studying co-operative principles and marketing schemes with a view to establishing some type of farmers' co-op for that area. Mayo is making an all-out effort to have a Folk School or Leadership Forum in Papineau County this year. Anyone interested contact Mrs. Lloyd Martin, Buckingham, Que.

"The Voice From The Hill", column heading for a series of articles being written for the local daily paper, is the result of an effort on the part of the Ives' Hill and Drapers' Corner forum to publicize farm forum and farm problems. The same forum submitted to the provincial forum office and to local legislators a resolution concerning woodlot management and forest conservation.

Secretary's Notebook

During my visits to the forums I have been quite surprised at the interest shown in woodlot conservation, woodlot management and tree-farming. Requests for information on this subject have come from Rawdon, Compton, Dalhousie, Arundel and Pontiac. Howard-Smith, C. I. P. Co., and Macdonald College have all voiced interest in this aspect of the farm. Considering the distance from Pontiac to Compton I am wondering if some type of Tree-Farming Demonstration Day could be held in the Townships and another in western Quebec with a Woodsmen's competition at the same time. Macdonald College would be glad to have such a Day. Is anyone interested enough to follow it up?

The Leadership Forum proposal from Mayo should receive further thought. As there will be no Christmas Short Course at Macdonald College this year it is more than ever essential that there be one, preferably two, Leadership Forums elsewhere in the province. Persons who would have been able to attend the Short Course could then go to a Leadership Forum.

The long talked about farm organization for Quebec's English Speaking Farmers is back in the news again these days. Whether or not you are to have such an organization is a decision entirely up to yourselves. It will require conviction and co-operative effort to organize and even more to keep it alive. Following is a short piece which originated in Hoard's Dairyman. It concerns the non-member and is especially appropriate at this time.

The Non-Member

"He is the fellow who is smarter than the rest of us, who knows all the answers. The guy who complains about how bad things are and what a lousy job the farm organizations are doing.

The one who stays home on election day and wonders how those "bums" got into office.

He believes in advertising as long as somebody else pays for it.

He thinks organizations are O.K. but he doesn't like the "nincompoops" who are running the ones now in existence.

He's the one who thinks the farmer ought to strike for more money, and then figures out some way to get his milk into the market while the strike is on. You know them, and so do I.

When they lose a market or a milk check, it's remarkable how the story changes: "They thought they were members all the time because their grandfather was one of the founders."

"They sent in a contract five years ago and it must have been lost."

They have to learn the hard way.

L.G.Y.

Argenteuil County Leads in Tree Farming

This summer 12 new Tree Farm Certificates were presented to Argenteuil County farmers making their membership still the largest of any single Tree Farm Committee in Canada. In just a little over two years of operation of the Tree Farm program by the Canadian Forestry Association, 46 Certificates have been awarded to private woodlot owners with a total tree farm acreage of 13,635 in this County.

The summer demonstration meeting was held at the Harrington Forest Farm of the Canadian International Paper Company's Hawkesbury plant and was attended by woodlot owners and municipal officers. Assesments and tax rates on forest lands was a subject for discussion. It was pointed out that in Scandinavia certain municipalities have remained tax free because of the income from their forest lands.

Experimental poplar plantations, test plantings of pines and hardwoods, and wildlife experimental work at the Harrington Forest Farm were observed by the visitors. In the woods, the private forest operators were shown a demonstration thinned area which has yielded valuable amounts of pulpwood, saw-logs, veneer logs, and fuel wood, while still leaving a young, healthy, fast-growing stand of timber after mature and defective trees have been removed.

The possibility of organizing an Argenteuil Tree Farm Association was discussed. Clerical and mailing services are being provided by the paper company to get an expression of opinion from Argenteuil residents.

The national Tree Farming program of the Canadian Forestry Association in just two years has enrolled over 200 owners. The individuals, companies, municipalities, and institutions own and operate more than 350,000 acres of forest land under proper management.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec Department of Agriculture

Granby Co-operators Are Still Happy

A GREATER volume of business, a smaller gross profit, and boundless enthusiasm sums up the operations of the Granby Co-operative during the 1955 fiscal year.

It was a particular busy year for the co-operative, especially for its general manager, president, and board of directors. The passage of Bill 149 through the Legislature, successful negotiations with regard to re-financing, the taking over of the Laurentide Products Corporation, the manufacture and sale of new products, kept the management so busy that there was not the usual amount of effort devoted to the work of education and recruitment which is the special responsibility of the corps of "animateurs" which go about the country-side spreading the gospel of co-operation.

This may account, to some extent, for the relatively small increase in membership—from 1214 in 1954 to 1223 in 1955. However, new memberships have been on the increase in the time since the end of the fiscal year, probably due, in some measure, to certain new policies put into effect. For example, the price to be paid milk shippers for the fall and winter months has been upped; charges for artificial insemination services have been eliminated for the winter, a premium of 10¢ has been offered for pre-cooled milk, milk coolers and milk cans have been offered for sale at cost. All these inducements have had their effect, doubtless, in attracting new members.

Some 700 new shippers have been added through the absorption of a group of farmers in Champlain and Batiscan counties who formerly operated under the name of the Laurentide Products Corporation, and the co-operative has bought the plant at Ste. Anne de la Perade to which they ship. The individual farmers are not yet members of the Granby Co-operative, but it is expected that the majority of them will join during the coming winter after a recruiting campaign has got under way.

The total turn-over of the co-operative reached the impressive figure of $6,838,000, almost a million dollars up from 1954. Total assets, with the completion of the plant at Notre Dame du Bon Conseil, and the acquisition of the plant at Ste. Anne de la Perade, have reached $5,288,000, and working capital is up $800,000, putting the co-operative in a very comfortable position financially.

Gains in two Departments

The largest increase in total business was in the dairy department, where the turnover was $5,994,000, an increase in the year of almost $900,000. Increase in milk deliveries was 15,000,000 pounds and new shippers totalled 700 (the group from Ste. Anne de la Perade). However, an increase of only this amount is not sufficient to justify the operation of a third processing plant, and with its present set-up the co-operative can use a yearly supply of at least 200,000,000 pounds. With all plants running at capacity, overhead is cut and more economical operation is possible. It must be admitted that the new plant was taken over in the middle of the winter under rather special conditions, and complete support was not forthcoming immediately from the suppliers in that district.

Milk receipts on the whole, however, have gone up some 30% in the least few months, and unless something absolutely unforseen happens, it seems likely that the desired amount of milk, and more, will be forthcoming. As everyone knows, conditions during the past summer did not favour the dairy industry. An abnormally hot summer, plus drought, cut down the volume and the test of milk produced. And prices for milk by-products, particularly skim milk products did not help matters. The price obtainable for spray-dried skim milk powder remains at 14¢ and if imports do not complicate the picture, the co-operative expects to maintain its increased price to suppliers which has already gone into effect.

Butter prices, remaining at around 58¢, do not permit operation at a profit, but so far the losses sustained on this section of the business have been met from reserves.

The feed and meal department is another which showed a profit, amounting to over $25,000 which is, nonetheless, a little smaller than was achieved last year. Total sales were down, too, by 3,200 bags at 164,987. The policy put into effect last year of not extending credit seems to be the responsible factor here. This problem is under active study by the directors and it is likely that some modification of the policy will be made, without going back to the old days of practically unrestricted credit sales. This change may bring back some lost customers and bring in some new ones.

Other Departments Down

Sales of chemical fertilizers have been lower throughout the whole province, and sales at the Granby Co-operative proved no exception to the general rule. But, the rate of loss at the co-op was considerably greater than in the rest of the province and there is as yet no adequate explanation forthcoming, unless here again it is a question of cash or credit sales. The department manager expected to sell 1000 tons last year but managed to get rid of only 437 tons.

Seed grain sales were also down, from 233,000 pounds in 1954 to 125,000 pounds in 1955. In the hatchery, however, there was a good gain in the number of eggs incubated, from 201,000 to 275,000. This department has been completely re-organized and more attention is being paid to the sale of day-old chicks and to service. It is expected that its volume of business will be doubled next year.

The farm implement division has entered into an agreement with the Co-operative Federee, the Quebec representative of the "Olivier" line, and the Granby Co-operative will distribute these implements in their area.

There was a small increase in the use of the services of the artificial insemination department, and with the new policy of free service during the winter months it is expected that the 1955 figure of 1823 services will at least be doubled.

The co-operative expected to manufacture and sell at least 200 farm milk coolers during 1955, but only 63 were actually sold. However, the new policy of paying a premium for pre-cooled milk has changed this picture, and since the books closed for the 1955 year no fewer than 75 coolers have been installed. It is confidently expected that at least 200 will be sold in 1956.

There are a number of reasons why the gross profit picture is less favourable than in 1954. Operation of the newly-acquired plant at Ste. Anne de la Perade, without a greatly increased supply of milk, was expensive. A considerable amount was written off the value of stock on hand. No profits were taken on sales of coolers and a premium of 10¢ was paid on pre-cooled milk. Also, a higher price was paid to milk shippers and artificial insemination services were provided at cost. The price of other articles and services was also reduced, following criticism from members.

Programme for 1956

The board of directors and the management have laid out a plan of action that ensures that they will have few idle moments during 1956. A campaign will be launched to recruit new shippers, whose establishments will pass the Montreal inspection service. Last year, of 120 barns inspected, only 6 were approved, and these only after certain improvements had been carried out. There is a tremendous education task to be done here among farmers to get them to improve conditions on the farm, but it is one that needs doing so that the huge market in the city, which pays good prices for good products, may be tapped. New products will be put on the market and every department will be improved and revitalized.

The members present (and there were enough of them to practically fill the big parish hall in the basement of the St. Eugene Church) showed their approval of the way their co-operative had been handled by re-electing all the directors and officers. There were a few comments from the floor, notably concerning the price and quality of feed sold by the co-operative, but in the main everybody appeared eminently satisfied with the way things are going.

Quebec at the Royal

Quebec was well represented at the Royal Winter Fair which closed in Toronto on November 19th, and while we cannot list all the placings, here are a few of the highlights.

Our 4-H Club members were represented by three teams; Ellwood Hodgins and Lucien Domingue brought the National championship in dairy cattle to Quebec, in competition with strong teams from eight other provinces. Terry Lowry and Bob Allen, in beef cattle judging, and Germain Rioux and Germain Pettigrew in hog judging.

All Ayrshire championships except the grand champion bull went to Quebec breeders—Russell Logan, Ormstown, J. G. Wilson, St. Valentin, A. E. McArthur and R. R. Ness & Sons of Howick, and Wyman McKechnie of Wyman.

Pierre Veillon of Sweetsburg won the Schuman trophy for the best cow, four years or older in milk and Mrs. A. R. Virgin and W. H. Miner's entries won several firsts. Championships in Canadian cattle and horses went to exhibits of O. A. Fowler, L. A. Sylvestre, Gilbert Arnold and Ernest Sylvestre.

Arnold's stables took championship ribbons in Percheron classes and their entries stood high in the Belgian classes. John Heatlie and Charles Liberman showed the Clyde champions.

Hooker Bros. of Ormstown took a championship in Yorkshire hogs and a number of ribbons in breeding and market hog classes.

Messrs. Savard of Peribonka and P. E. Desbiens of Ste. Anne de Chicoutimi saw their Green Mountain potato exhibits among the prize winners, and Antoine Couture of Amqui took a fifth with Irish Cobblers.

There was a large entry list in the Montcalm barley classes, but three Quebec growers, Messrs. C. A. Rivard, Donat Rivard, and Roger Jodoin won prizes. C. A. Rivard also took a prize for red clover, and G. Grand-Pré and Luc Desmarais placed in timothy seed.

Quebec exhibits of maple products won first, second and third prizes for O. A. Fowler, Albert Dumas and Emile Plante.

Quebec Team Wins National Judging

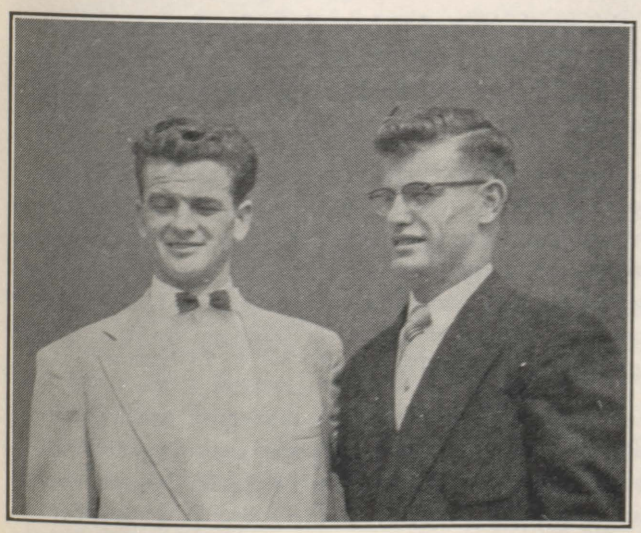
Quebec scored top honours in dairy cattle judging at the finals of the 4-H competitions in Toronto for the second time in a row last month. Elwood Hodgins of Shawville and Lucien Domingue of Brome, the two top scorers in the provincial eliminations held at Sherbrooke this fall, went on to the National determined to keep the title in Quebec, and they did just that.

The two other Quebec teams made the coveted trip to Toronto, Terry Lowry and Bob Allen, the beef team, and Germain Rioux and Germain Petigrew, the swine team, each placed fifth in their respective contests.

Manitoba teams led the field with three wins, in the food, garden, and poultry sections, with Saskatchewan winning the swine and beef contests and Alberta the grain and clothing. Ontario's lone win was in the potato judging event.

During the activity-crammed week, 118 boys and girls from 10 provinces took part in these competitions, which were held at the Ontario Agricultural College, at the Department of Agriculture Seed Laboratory in Toronto, and at the Fair grounds. But the judging competitions took only one day of national club week. On other days they visited the University of Toronto to hear an address by A. M. Barr, Principal of the Kemptville Agricultural School, made a bus trip to Niagara Falls and Hamilton, attended the Horse Show at the Royal Winter Fair and a hockey game at Maple Leaf Gardens and spent a day in Ottawa as guests of the Canada Department of Agriculture.

Membership in 4-H Clubs in Canada in 1955 is at an all time high—nearly 73,000 boys and girls up to 21 years of age are actively engaged in club work. The average age for Canada is 13.2 years and the average club membership 14.7.



Canada's junior dairy cattle judges.

What Is 4-H?

The movement to train the head and hands and to influence the heart and health of rural youth in Canada had its beginnings in different parts of the country just before the First Great War. Over the years it has had many names and many types of programs but its basic objectives remain the same. Quite simply, 4-H Club Work is designed to influence farm people to adopt better methods of farming and homemaking, to help them to solve their own problems by training the young people to organize and to accept the responsibilities of citizenship. With membership now approaching the 73,000 mark it's impossible to measure in known terms the influence of 4-H Club Work in rural areas or on the national economy of Canada. Improved dairy and beef herds, new seeds and new strains for grain, fruits, and vegetables, new techniques of food preparation and preservation are but a few instances of the practical results of 4-H Club Work. The new spirit of enthusiasm sweeping the rural youth of the country is in no small way attributable to 4-H.

Any rural boy or girl up to the age of 21 who is able to carry out a demonstration of some better farm or home activity may become a member of 4-H Club. Generally speaking there is no membership fee as such. Regular meetings are held and conducted according to parliamentary procedure so that the young people learn how to discharge the functions of a public or group meeting by actually doing it themselves. The club also plans group activities such as tours of prominent farms and industries, athletics, judging competitions and achievement day at the local fall fair. Individually, the boy or girl undertakes projects such as the raising of a calf, a pair of pigs or a flock of chickens, the growing of an acre or more of grain or potatoes and the girls may make or select suitable clothing for themselves or their family. In each case they learn by doing; they learn how to raise better livestock more efficiently, to increase the yield per acre, to sew or to cook.

The great membership in 4-H Clubs and their wide recognition by young and old indicate the way in which Canadian rural youth is planning its future. The 4-H Clubs train young men and women for leadership; they improve farms and therefore the community as a whole by introducing better agricultural and homemaking practices; they encourage co-operative community effort for the common good and by helping to build a finer rural life they contribute substantially to the development of a more satisfying Canadian culture.

Why Not Start Right?

Seed grain sown by farmers in the parishes of Nicolet and Yamaska counties in the spring of 1954 was of remarkably bad quality.

22.5% of it graded No. 1
8.1% of it graded No. 2
8.7% of it graded No. 3
60.6% of it graded Rejected

Small wonder that the crops of oats, barley, and mixed grain harvested in Quebec, if these figures are any indication of the situation for the province as a whole, are far below what they could be.

The figures given above result from a survey made in the spring of 1954 by inspectors of the Department of Agriculture, who went to the farms during the seeding season and took samples directly from the seeder, or from the grain that had been set aside for sowing.

Most of this seed had been produced on the home farm, and a lot of it had not even been cleaned before being taken out of the bin and sown. Only 14.3% of the seed had been bought by the farmer, either from a seed merchant or from a neighbour. All the rest was home-grown. Bought seed was apparently better than the home-grown variety, but even out of the 115 lots examined that had been bought, 55 graded "reject", or 47.8%, while 62.7% of the home-grown seed was rejected.

Seed bought from a co-operative proved to be best; only 1 rejected sample out of 12, as compared with 33 rejects in 42 samples of home-grown grain. There were 20 rejects in 54 samples bought commercially, and 7 samples were of unknown origin, and had one rejected sample. These had been bought somewhere, but it was not possible to learn whether they had come from a co-operative or from some other source.

The survey shows that 85.7% of the farmers in these two counties sowed seed in the spring of 1954 which they had saved from their own 1953 crops—and it also shows that 57.1% in Nicolet and 74.5% in Yamaska was rejected as suitable seed. It shows further that seed cleaning in this area is not highly regarded. 802 samples were taken and analysed in this survey. 205 of them had never been near a fanning mill or cleaned before being sown in any way. 262 samples had been cleaned on the farm in one way or another, and 335 had gone through a large cleaning plant.

But even though 262 farmers took the trouble to clean their seed at home, it was, in a good many cases, wasted efforts. Seed cleaners on the majority of the farms are so old and broken down that they cannot possibly do a good job; some farmers use the back of the thresher, where about all they accomplish is to take the straw and dirt out of the seed. And a lot of this cleaning is done the night before the seed is due to be sown, without much care being given to the task.

Even the larger cleaning plants (there are 31 available to serve 37 parishes) leave much to be desired. Many of them, at the time of the survey, needed to be cleaned out; many were badly adjusted, and many were being operated by incompetent workmen.

We could go on with other figures and percentages, but the facts are, at least as far as these two counties are concerned, that seed that isn't fit for use is being put into the ground spring after spring. Not only is it of poor quality, but it is full of weed seed, especially of couch grass, mustard and wild radish. How in the name of Louis Hebert can one expect to harvest a crop of oats, barley or mixed grain that amounts to anything using seed like this?

Pierre Labrecque, Director of the Animal Husbandry Service, and Nazaire St. Pierre, manager of the Artificial Insemination Unit at St. Hyacinthe, were in Ottawa last month to explain our Postal R.O.P. system and the operation of the insemination centre. The occasion was a meeting of a special committee which has been set up to study the question of artificial insemination and to make recommendations on the establishing of a national programme of herd improvement.

Consisting of highly qualified livestockmen, this committee, after meeting with representatives of all provinces, will make recommendations to the National Advisory Committee on Agriculture.

We would be glad to hear if the Ste. Brigide d'Iberville is the only 4-H Club that organized a plowing competition this fall. If your club held such a contest for its members, we would like to tell others about it.

The Ste. Brigide match was held in October on Henri Louis Mailloux's farm with twenty-three contestants taking part, fourteen using two-furrow plow and the other nine using three furrows. No horse-drawn plows were out. Each contestant was assigned his land (168 feet long and 43 feet wide) at random by the county agronome, Jacques Tremblay.

Prizes were awarded at a dinner at which Maurice Gagnon, the club president, was chairman, and which was attended by Mayor Tringue, L. V. Marsot, county agronome, Leo Traversy of the Rural Education Service and Jacques Tremblay, agronome.

Dear Readers:

Here we are right in the midst of Farm Forum activities. Have you organized a forum or two in your part of the country? I've been over to Randboro with one of our members helping them get started—or could we call it "sowing some Farm Forum seed"? We are helping Grove Hill reorganize, too. I find people very interested in the New Farm Organization, even those who haven't been impressed by Farm Forum. One fault they have with Farm Forum is that it takes one night every week, while they say they could attend a meeting once a month. Personal prejudices also keep some folks at home. I always try to explain that our organization is a place to come and talk things over. Possibly by further discussion of our problems we can either make our viewpoint stronger, or see our neighbours' ideas in a clearer light. Then, if the grudge is still there, the best thing to do is to lock it in the closet and keep it there, and we'll soon forget where we put it. (At least, that's what happens to things I put away.) Then will come the day when our organizations will really flourish.

Through small group discussions I have even found myself changing my mind to agree that my neighbour had a better idea than mine; if I had been in a large group I expect I'd have held on to my out-dated thought or plan just to protect my pride. Again through education we learn that to change one's mind is to advance, not retreat. Through better education we often learn of possibilities we hadn't even considered before. A Community Fire Protection Plan might be one outcome of this.

Since I started attending Leadership Forum things have been happening that I never dreamed of. When I realize what I've done and where I've been since it ended, I'm surprised. Or did it end? I don't think so—it just began; a whole new series of thoughts and plans were given to the twenty-two people who attended. Now they are bringing new ideas to their organizations. Hilda Dougherty has started a Forum on the Scotch Road. Lois Gilbert is teaching "How To Conduct Recreation" to a new Forum member from Randboro. Pierre Beauregard and Jean Holden have appeared on television and on a radio programme, choosing as their topic of discussion "The Leadership Forum." We have all been helping at Farm Forum Rallies and other meetings by conducting recreation, making speeches or adding interest when necessary. Alice Wilson and I accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Cameron to Macdonald College where we spoke to the Quebec Council of Community Programmes on arrangements and benefits derived from the Leadership Forum. So is it any wonder I have trouble remembering who I am and what I'm doing? Sometimes I feel as though I were two people, but I guess I'm just a whole person at last.

As I wrote I have the joy of looking into three sweet pansy faces; one white, one yellow and one purple. Yesterday I went to the garden, brushed away a couple of inches of snow with my mitten and picked the precious little things. We harvested the last of the garden, some firm white cauliflower heads. The parsnips and salsify are there yet, waiting to add a zip of flavour to a spring dinner. The hot-bed is dug out ready to be filled next April.

Then last night we had a party. The family gathered around the dining room table which was piled with green pine branches. Their aroma filled the house, mixed with the more obnoxious smell of aluminum paint which had been used to silver some cones. We set to work with wire coat-hangers, paper and string and soon had some wreaths of thick green pine ready to tip with silver. As they dried we added the cones and finally tied on large bows; satin ribbon for inside and oilcloth for outdoors.

After picking up the pitchy remains and burning them in a crackling fire we sat around with red MacIntosh apples. First we looked at our reflections in the shining cheeks, then we shook them, smelled them, and relished them. It was a perfect finish to our evening of pleasure.

So Merry Christmas to each of you, and may God and His Son be present at your celebration of the Christ Child's birth.

Sincerely,

Wally.

Why World Food Plans Fail

The reasons for the failure of governments to establish a world food reserve or a world food distribution scheme, were gone into at Rome in the recent conference of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers.

Perhaps the most important reason for this failure, the delegates said, is that the specific proposals for international food distribution have been couched in vague and general terms.

"They have taken insufficiently into account important facts in regard to existing national policies in the fields of agriculture and foreign trade," IFAP said. "They have seemed to assume that large quantities of important food commodities could be distributed through an international agency without affecting the normal international trade in the same commodities. And above all, they have not come to grips with the problem of how the pricing policy of the international food distribution agency would be arrived at and how it would be carried out . . ."

The delegates said that another reason for failure is that governments possessing surpluses have not been convinced that an international agency could handle their surplus supplies as well as they could themselves. In addition, the meeting stated, these governments have not wanted to hand over large sums, even in terms of commodities, to an untested international agency. And the governments have been unwilling to turn over large surpluses which they might themselves be able to use directly to national advantage.

"Finally," the IFAP said, "it may be mentioned that, while governments of countries which might be expected to be recipients of surplus stocks have enthusiastically applauded the general idea of a world food reserve, there is little evidence of serious consideration as to how the distribution of large quantities of surplus stocks could be fitted into the national food distribution patterns of the recipient countries."

Man Against Nature

Those engaged in scientific research work must always be mindful of the delicate balance of nature when dealing with soil, vegetation and fauna. Actually 'Nature's way' was disturbed when pre-historic man first undertook to cultivate the soil and penetrate into the forest. Since that time the balance has been upset many times and often only corrected after serious damage had been done. The untimely and drastic deforestation of mountain slopes for example, has resulted in flooding and consequent erosion of good farm lands. Even the use of chemicals for insect control can be an unmixed blessing, for the chemicals frequently eradicate the useful insects which often keep the harmful ones in check. And so the scientist must be watchful for the immediate results and for the aftermath.

The June report of UNESCO gives a number of examples showing how the balance of nature was upset by what at first sight appeared quite logical actions. In 1859, twenty-four rabbits were brought into Australia. Since that time that country has been plagued by millions of these rodents destroying both natural and cultivated vegetation. Today, Jamaica is troubled by the mongoose, introduced originally with the object of destroying rats which were pillaging sugar cane plantations. The mongoose, however, also attacks domestic animals and destroys harvests.

In Africa, the destruction of the leopard has resulted in an enormous increase in baboons and wild pigs which eat up the vegetation. In other countries the eradication of the otter has brought about the disappearance of fish. The otter for some peculiar reason enjoys a diet of diseased fish and thereby prevents the spread of fish epidemics.

Production Exceeds that of Dams

A report from the dairy husbandry department at Iowa State College advises that tests on 2,070 daughter-dam pairs on production records have just been completed. The daughters were sired artificially; the dams were sired naturally.

The latest report shows that the daughters are producing an average of 30 pounds more butterfat than their dams, which leads the extension dairyman at the college to observe that artificial insemination can take a lot of the gamble out of a farmer picking a sire for his herd. The programme certainly seems to offer a great deal in the way of an answer for the small dairyman.

Iowa, by the way, ranked sixth among states in the United States in the number of cows bred by artificial insemination during 1954.

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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes and to matters of interest to them

Christmas Superstitions

by Nellie A. Parsons

Few people care to admit that they are superstitious, but notwithstanding vehement protests to the contrary, nearly everyone has a few pet superstitions to which they pin their faith. Superstitions have their origin in events that have occurred through the ages in many different parts of the world and been handed down from one generation to another. There are those that are applicable to any time and others that are peculiar to certain seasons of the year, and no season surpasses Christmas in its wealth of superstitious lore. Some of these are both interesting and amusing.

In Switzerland, if you want to find out how the weather will be during the year ahead, cut an onion in half on Christmas Eve, pull off 12 layers, one for each month, and fill the same with salt. Those which contain salt next morning predict rainy weather for that month. Young people who wish to learn something of their matrimonial prospects are advised to drink three times from nine different fountains when the church bells are ringing on Christmas Eve, and they will then behold their future mate standing at the church door. The observance of this custom is quite possible in Switzerland where public fountains are found everywhere.

On Christmas Eve, the Swiss believe that for one hour the dumb beasts are able to talk in human language, but misfortune is the lot of one who tries to listen. Children born on Christmas Day are said to be able to see ghosts, to tell fortunes and turn water into wine.

There are many superstitions connected with candles and holly. One is, that if a girl takes three holly leaves, puts them under her pillow giving each the name of a possible husband, the one which has turned in the morning will be her future mate.

In Norway the Christmas candle is highly revered. It is left burning all night and if it should go out it is an omen of death.

In some old Yorkshire homes, the Christmas candle is still lighted and carried into every room in the house. The bearer must be most careful to shield the flame as each door is opened, for it would be bad luck if the candle should "puff out" in a draught. If the Yale candle is held over the churn it will evict that malicious little sprite, "Hob-o-the-churn", who hides therein and spoils the butter.

An Irish superstition is that on Christmas Eve, the Holy Child is out alone in the cold and dark. To light him on his way, candles are put in the windows. In Ireland there are still people in remote parts who believe that on Christmas Eve the doors of Heaven are opened and all who die that night can enter without going to Purgatory.

Holly protects the home from evil spirits. In ancient times Christians hung holly wreaths to invite the spirit of the Christ Child to come and spend the holidays with them. Holly is said to be particularly lucky for men. All gardeners know there is a male and female variety of holly; the male holly has sharp prickly-edged leaves, while the female has smooth-edged leaves. An old tradition originating in the English Midlands, is that if you bring in the male holly, the husband will rule during the year, and if the female variety is brought in the wife will have the upper hand. Best play safe and have some of each.

In Ireland there are those who believe that on Christmas Eve, Judas Iscariot is allowed to revisit the earth, and anyone who looks into a mirror on that night will see either Judas or the devil peering over his shoulder.

In England it is believed that the bees express their veneration for the Holy Birth by singing in their hives at midnight on Christmas Eve. The hives are always adorned with sprigs of holly at the Yuletide season.

If the cat "meows" during the evening meal on Christmas Eve, it brings bad luck. In Germany peasants have great faith in bread moistened by Christmas dew.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To Members of the Quebec Women's Institutes —

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS every man can teach us something and
WHEREAS it is our obligation to pay him back in the coin of our own skill, or power, or knowledge, therefore
BE IT RESOLVED that, using what we have, we teach every man when we know something the man can use, and
That we build the human beings that we can be really capable of building out of ourselves.

Sincere Greetings,

GRACE A. LEBARON.

Fed to the cattle it makes them healthy and prolific during the coming year. A woman entering the house first on Christmas Day is said to bring bad luck, a man entering first brings good luck, and if he is dark haired so much the better.

In Denmark the farmer makes a cross in front of his door to keep evil spirits from crossing his door step during the holidays. A popular superstition prevalent today is the tradition of eating a piece of Christmas cake in each home visited, each sample signifying a month of good luck in the coming year.

And now to you and your families, my best wishes for a Happy Holiday season and may all your cherished dreams come true.

Memorial Bursary for Compton County

For the past five years Compton County Women's Institute has been awarding a bursary to a High School graduate, going on for further training. The money was raised in various ways and some of the generous sums of money, given to the W.I. by the late Hon. C. D. French, was used for this purpose. At his death it was decided to continue these scholarships and to start a permanent fund for this purpose in memory "of a truly great man who did so much for the betterment of his county", to quote Mrs. J. D. Harrison, Publicity Convenor, Compton Co. W.I., reporting on this project.

The goal set for this fund is $3000. Until this objective is reached, there will be a small per capita yearly assessment among the members and, while the W.I. do not purpose to solicit help from outside sources, they are not averse to accepting voluntary contributions for this cause, from anyone who may wish to assist.

The bursary went this year to Mr. Sanford McCallum, Cookshire High School, who has entered the Science course at Bishop's University.

Mrs. G. E. LeBaron signs the Golden Book at Granby City Hall. Mrs. Horace Boivin (the Mayor's wife) stands beside her, holding a carved rosewood elephant presented to her by Indian representatives. (This picture arrived too late to be used with the "Elephant Story" in the previous issue of the Journal). Photo by Roger Roy.

The Month With The W.I.

Reports of semi-annual county conventions figure largely in these reports; well attended and instructive programs. Remembrance Day has been marked; poppies and wreaths purchased, a part taken in community observances, and suitable programs at many of the regular meetings. Help for the mentally retarded child, a provincial project, seems to be a general topic for discussion in many counties. It is gratifying to hear of so much interest being created. Tentative Christmas plans are beginning to make their appearance and many reports speak of donations to our own Q.W.I. Service Fund, following the desirable pattern of making them in the fall. Many, too, are on the basis of the advocated $1.00 per member—the total as reported here, $261.

Argenteuil: *Arundel* made plans to oufit three little girls of school age. A film on the life of an Eskimo boy, "Angotee", was enjoyed. The Arundel history (Tweedsmuir) will be on sale shortly at $1.50 per copy. *Brownsburg* donated 11 books to the school library and Mrs. Stevens was appointed to plan a meeting to entertain the teaching staff, Home and School Executive and School Board. *Jerusalem-Bethany* heard a paper on Canada and two poems were read. Donations were given two members who have suffered fire losses, and $5 to the Salvation Army. *Lachute* received a letter from the Town Council asking for recommendations from the W.I. for town improvements. Dr. Mongeof gave a talk on florine in water and its effect on dental health. *Pioneer* saw films on a trip through the Southern States, shown by Mr. J. MacKimmie. A gift was presented a member who is moving away. *Upper Lachute-East End* heard a talk by Mrs. G. McGibbon on "Rights of Married Women in the Province of Quebec". A donation of 25 cents per member was given to the County Educational Fund.

Bonaventure: *Black Cape* had a paper on "Two World Wars", and another on Coventry. School prizes were awarded and the annual collection of jams, jellies, vegetables and pickles presented to the local hospitals. *Grand Cascapedia* had Dr. Maclean as guest speaker on "The Three fold Bundle of Life-Body, Mind and Spirit" and a film on the hospital airlift in the West. A social evening brought in $35 towards school prizes. Members assisted at the Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic. *Matapedia* welcomed three new members. Prizes for school gardens were given and Q.W.I. cookbooks sold. *Marcil* made plans to assist with hot lunches at the local school. *Port Daniel* entertained the teachers from the local Protestant and Catholic Schools; talks were given by the principals. A dance netted $26 for branch funds; *Restigouche* held a supper netting $32.55 and is circulating a travelling apron.

Brome: *Abercorn* heard a talk on the United Nations. A sale of home-cooking was held. *Austin* donated $10 to the Princess Elizabeth High School cafeteria. A report

Mrs. R. Partington, F.W.I.C. Convenor of Cultural Activities and her daughters Pat and Hilary, taken on the grounds of the University of British Columbia while attending the British Columbia W.I. Convention. With them is an eighty-six year old Danish Institute member.

and exhibit of the work done in the Leather Course formed the program. *South Bolton* held a discussion on hot lunches for needy children attending the High School. A substantial sum was realized from the sale of the "Tweedsmuir Quilt". An "Old and New" sale was held here. *Sutton* sent 20 knitted squares to the W.V.S., cotton to the Cancer Society and 2½ dozen diapers and a crib quilt to the Cecil Memorial Home. Abercorn members were guests and a paper was given on Publicity.

Chat-Huntingdon: *Aubrey-Riverfield* entertained the Howick School staff, the principal, Mr. Morgan giving a talk. Other speakers were Rev. I. E. Johnson, Ormstown, on "Juvenile Delinquency" and Mrs. W. Rember, County President. This branch has given 100 cans of apple-sauce for the School cafeteria. *Dundee* also had Mrs. Rember as guest speaker. A "Birthday Party" for Mrs. Snowdon, Head of the Ormstown Convalescent Home, was reported and 27 lbs. of cotton sent the Cancer Society. *Franklin Centre* had Miss M. Barr, Leader Franklin C.G.I.T. demonstrate basket-making with fire-proof crepe rafia. Smaller baskets and hot dish mats were on display. *Howick* gave $10 to their school cafeteria. Mrs. B. Chisholm gave a paper on "Status of Married Women in Quebec" and a demonstration on cookie-press cookies was given by Mrs. K. Greig. *Huntingdon* presented a life-membership to Mrs. W. Bernhardt. Demonstrations here were adjustment of commercial sewing patterns to individual measurements, Mrs. K. Rutherford, and grilled foods by Mrs. Greenbank. Jams, jellies, fruit and vegetables were donated to the County Hospital. *Ormstown* had Mrs. Campbell of the High School staff as guest speaker. A successful card party was held.

Compton: *Brookbury* donated $5 to the Cemetary and $4 to the Salvation Army. *Bury* had Mrs. Abercrombie as guest speaker, telling of the dedication of the Picnic Nook, in the Peace Garden, to Mrs. Alfred Watt. She also explained the UNESCO Gift Coupon Plan. *Canterbury* heard a paper on the United Nations by the president, Mrs. P. Coates, and another on the Queen was read by Mrs. Epps. Civil Defence was discussed and plans made for a cooking demonstration. *Cookshire* heard a talk on Public Relations by the Publicity convenor. A $50 bursary was given to a High School Boy (money raised through bridge marathon) and $25 donated the school for prizes. *East Angus* had a hat-making course. A paper drive was held realizing $64.40 and a sale brought $26.55. A tour of the Sherbrooke Pure Milk Plant was taken by several of the members. *East Clifton* heard a paper on Citizenship by that convenor. The County Executive was entertained and a contest, with prizes, "What Do You Know About the W.I." was conducted by the president. Tentative plans were made to entertain the teachers at the W.I. Hall and the assessment of 45¢ per member was paid to the Education Bursary (a county project). *Scotstown* gave a month's supply of milk tickets to a family and donated soup to the school lunch room. Pictures of a trip to Banff and Victoria were shown by Miss K. Waldron. *Sawyerville* reported a successful school fair, held in the I.O.O.F. Hall, with children from the Catholic and Protestant Schools taking part. The staff of the High School and husbands were entertained, an annual event.

Gatineau: *Aylmer East* sent a box of jam to the Brookdale Orphan's Home. Mrs. H. Ellard, Q.W.I. 2nd Vice-president, gave a talk on W.I. work and Mrs. J. Jameison read a paper on Ceylon. *Lower Eardley* had a luncheon meeting at Murphy-Gamble's, Ottawa, to celebrate their second birthday. Mrs. H. Ellard was guest speaker. Mrs. F. Moore, reported on a dance held at Aylmer High School Hall, where prizes were given. *Rupert* had readings, "An Immigrant Dutch Family's 25th Wedding Anniversary", Mrs. B. Gibbon, and the unveiling of the memorial to Mrs. Alfred Watt at the Peace Garden, by Mrs. A. Wallace. Each of the two schools at Rupert were given $5, and $10 was donated to the Institute for the Blind. *Wakefield* heard a report of the 1955 Jamboree at Niagara-on-the Lake by Scout Master, Mr. P. Evans and two of the scouts. Three

The Clarendon W.I. display which took first prize at both Shawville and Quyon fairs.

members were appointed to attend the next Council meeting to ask that a traffic officer be appointed for the town. Donations were $10 each to the Institute for the Blind and County funds. *Wright* heard a talk on "Good Citizenship" by the convenor and purchased UNICEF Christmas cards.

Gaspé: The county drew up the fair program for 1956 and discussed the proposed aid to Fort Haldimand Camp (both County projects). *L'Anse-Aux-Cousins* entertained the county president, Mrs. H. Palmer, when these projects were discussed. A contest, "Spice Guessing" was enjoyed. *Sandy Beach* entertained members from other branches at a masquerade party. The prize for the most original costume went to the county president, Mrs. Palmer, dressed as a Sewing Kit; the funniest went to Miss Clements as "Grampa". *Wakeham* presented a life-membership to a faithful member, Mrs. F. Patterson, on her birthday. A party brought $130 to the treasury and a sale through the work calendar brought $40; $10 was voted the county fund.

Missisquoi: *Cowansville* heard a talk on Civil Defence by Miss Pelshat, R.N. Miss McOuat gave a demonstration on hat-remodelling and making new hats. *Dunham* held a Christmas sale and afternoon tea and joined *Fordyce* for an ACWW meeting. A skit was written by the Publicity convenor, Mrs. Moore, on the 25th anniversary of the ACWW, which is being observed this year. Members dressed in the national costumes of the various ACWW countries and wore banners showing the flag of these countries. A birthday cake with 25 blue candles and ACWW in gold centered the table the first candle lighted by a charter member of Dunham W.I., Mrs. McElory. The showing of the two ACWW filmstrips completed the program. *Stanbridge East* had a Publicity program in charge of that convenor. The rollcall was, "Name a Prominent Person in W.I., at any Level", "How We Run Our Meetings" was read from "The Countrywoman" and a quiz held on the Handbook. It was decided to increase the number of prizes given in the local school. One member was enrolled.

Papineau: *Lochaber* took orders for Christmas cards (and others) Linens were sent to the Cancer Society and thanks received: this work is to be continued. Publicity was the topic of the program here also, with a paper read by that convenor. Each member is to save her I.G.A. receipts; when they total $250, 10% will be returned to the W.I.

Pontiac: *Bristol* heard a talk by Mrs. R. Smith, R.N. on "First Aid and Home Nursing". Mrs. J. Humphrey, the oldest member, celebrated her 90th birthday. A Dutch auction was held to raise funds. *Clarendon* donated $5 to the United Church in appreciation of its use for the semi-annual meeting. *Elmside* heard two articles; "How to Treat Our Guest Speaker" and "What's Wrong With Our Meetings". *Quyon* had a talk on "Public Speaking and How the Institute Can Help", by Mr. Wm. Munroe, Inspector of Protestant Schools in that district. Three books were donated to each of the two schools and $10 to the Institute for the Blind. *Shawville* had their annual Ladies' Night, with dinner at Pine Lodge and card games after. Prizes were large size tins of peanuts bought to help the Rotary Club. *Wyman* held a discussion on "Child Welfare". All members attended a two-day cooking class by Miss McOuat.

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Richmond: *Cleveland* had two readings, "Giving Thanks" (Mrs. Ossington's article in October "Journal") read by the Citizenship Convenor, and an item from the "Federated News" on Mrs. Abercrombie, read by the Publicity Convenor. Two silver dollars were given a member's new baby and $10 voted the County Fund. *Melbourne Ridge* entertained five members of the County Executive at the meeting. A party brought in $58.80 and articles auctioned and a sales table brought $13.20. *Windsor Mills* sent a Christmas parcel to their English link. *Spooner Pond* donated $10 to the County fund and sent linen to the Cancer Society. A tour was made of the Brown Shoe Factory, a local industry. This branch entertained Windsor Mills and Cleveland branches, when the county president was present. *Gore* had a demonstration on jewellery making by one of its members. Two magazine subscriptions have been given to the schools. *Richmond Hill* brought articles of clothing for a Korean baby. A glove making course under Miss Altimas has been completed. The quiz here was on transportation. *Shipton* held a supper for its members and their families, with a dance following for teen-agers. Giving, here, is $5 to the Danville Girl Guides, $10 to the County Fund, and a Christmas parcel overseas.

Rouville: *Abbotsford* heard a talk on the manufacture of powdered milk, by Dr. Thibodeau of the Agricultural Co-operative, Granby. A large bundle of cotton has been sent the Cancer Society and 30 jars of jelly donated to the Montreal Diet Dispensary. Two humorous readings were given by Miss A. Buzzell, "Why I am Leaving My Farm" and "The Smart Insurance Agent". An apple contest was held, with Miss Buzzell the winner.

Sherbrooke: *Ascot* entertained the county president, Mrs. B. Turner. An Institute pin was given Mrs. Chapman, a member who is leaving the community, and $15 voted to Lennoxville Library. *Belvidere* held its annual flower and vegetable show. Mr. L. Norwood, Lennoxville, acted as judge and gave a helpful talk on the exhibits. Mrs. Paige, Home Economics convenor, read items from a CAC Bulletin and Mrs. G. Montgomery, Welfare and Health convenor, discussed the local movement for helping retarded children. *Brompton Road* featured Grandmother's Day when all grandmothers were remembered with gifts. Mrs. H. Riches gave out the prizes won at the flower show. Articles read were "Outline of Education", Mrs. L. Clark; "Women Urged to Help Avoid Highway Accidents", Mrs. H. McLeod; "Our Buying Responsibilities", Mrs. E. Berwick. This branch catered for the Ploughman's dinner and gave a donation to the school fair; $10 for prizes, $2.50 toward dinner expenses. *Milby* enjoyed a tour of the Carnation Milk Plant, which was arranged by Mrs. G. McVety, Welfare and Health Convenor.

Stanstead: *Ayer's Cliff* had a Citizenship program, Mrs. Thompson, convenor. "Tips" were given by the Home Economics Convenor. Prizes were given at the school opening and money voted the Canadian Legion to be used to add names to the War Memorial. Two members will act as Librarians for the Community Library. This month's County broadcast was given by a member of this W.I., Mrs. N. Pierce. *Beebe* made $34.15 on their Rummage Sale. A donation of $25 was received from an old friend and former member, Mrs. Bellam, to be used for dishes for the new school, and $25 was donated toward school prizes. *Hatley Centre* had a demonstration on decorating a birthday cake, by the Home Economics convenor, and a Chinese auction of a cake brought the sum of $3.50. *Minton* made 450 dressings for the Cancer Society. *Stanstead North* donated $50 to the Home and School for the cafeteria, made $113 on dinner and sale, and sent flowers to a good friend, Miss J. Colby, on her 94th birthday. *Way's Mills* heard a paper on Canadian Citizenship by the convenor, followed by a discussion. Plans are being made for baskets for the Children's Memorial and the Cecil Memorial Home.

Vaudreuil: *Cavagnal* reports posters and the local press keep their activities before the public. Refreshments were served at the St. Lazare Fair.

Office Happenings

Are you supporting the Gift Coupon Plan? Mrs. Ossington, our Citizenship convenor, suggests amounts of contributions might be given in these columns. If you would like to have this done let her know, as you send in your orders to her, and she will report the amounts to this office. Granby Hill is the first with a purchase of $25. Your delegate will have told you this project was discussed at the convention and Mrs. Ossington mentions it in her article in the October Journal, "Giving Thanks". If you want more information, write to Mrs. J. Ossington, R.R. 1, Granby.

Music Year:

"Let's make this a Music Year". Our convenor of Education, Miss Mackenzie, quotes this from a letter she has received from the National Convenor, Mrs. Partington, B.C. The letter goes on to say, "Some of you, I know, stressed music in 1955, so I feel sure you will be carrying right on, for Music isn't something you can just turn on and off; it just grows with you". Institutes are also reminded now is the time to start work on the next Tweedsmuir Competition.

Annual Reports:

Did you get your Annual Report? Membership figures may have changed since annual meetings in March (the totals in the office) so if there were not enough copies to go round in the parcels sent last month to each branch, ask your secretary to write for more. There are a few left over.

Community Programs:

Leadership courses had priority on the list of projects for 1956 at the annual meeting of the Quebec Council of Community Programs. The need of new books for the Travelling Library was also stressed. Children's books, particularly, are urgently required, as these form three-fifths of the total circulation. Miss Wilson's (the Librarian) vivid tale of what goes when the van draws up at a school was the best sales talk that could be given of the need for this support. Maintenance of the Library is assured, all money given goes entirely for the purchase of books.

Another Meeting:

Senator Mariana B. Jodoin spoke briefly on "Women in the Senate", at the last regular monthly meeting of the Montreal Council of Women. Mme Jodoin is the first woman Senator ever to be appointed in Quebec and she made a plea for more interest in public affairs by all women.

Mr. Saul Hayes, National Director of the Canadian Jewish Congress and a vice-president of the Canadian Association for Adult Education, was the main speaker. Taking as his topic, "The Use of Law as an Instrument of Citizenship", he pointed out how necessary there should be such restrictions to assist with harmonious relationships. Traffic regulations were quoted as one example. Criminal and Civil Codes are another and more recently Fair Employment Acts. "Education is only half the answer, important though it is", said Mr. Hayes, "because people believe in the force of law, action can be instituted to ensure fair play. Laws do not cure but they do bring the realization of evils closer to home and set us thinking".

THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clan

Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students

Mr. William Ferguson ("Bill" to his host of friends throughout Canada) died in Ottawa on September 29th, after a lengthy period of ill health.

Head of the Vegetable Crops Unit in the Division of Horticulture at Ottawa at the time of his death, Bill joined the staff of the Central Experimental Farm in 1932, following graduation from Macdonald College with a Master of Science degree. His first project in the Horticulture Division had to do with research on fruit products, but he was almost immediately granted study leave to spend another year in graduate study, this time at Yale, where he held the Henry Daggett Hooker Memorial Scholarship. Here he worked in plant physiology; a year later he was granted a second period of leave which he used to study in some of the research laboratories in England and in France.

On his return to Canada, and following a period of work in respiration studies with apples, he undertook studies on nutritional problems and physiological troubles in horticultural plants. In 1942 and the following years, when war-time conditions made the supply of vegetable seed critical in Canada, he was made responsible for part of the Canadian seed production programme. In 1946 he was appointed to the post he held at his death.

He was an active member of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, served one term as president of the Eastern Ontario Branch, in 1954 was elected director for Eastern Ontario, and in June, 1955, became vice-president. He was a member of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, and secretary and later chairman of the Horticulture Section of its Plant Breeders' Committee.

Macdonald's Living War Memorial

Rev. John Anderson, Dean of Ottawa and National President of the Canadian Legion, was the speaker for the tenth War Memorial Address, given at Macdonald College on November 14th.

Looking back through the *Journal* files, we find that the first reference to the Memorial Address was contained in our issue of March, 1946. There we stated, "Plans for Macdonald College are two-fold. First is the creation of a fund that will make it possible to invite to the College some person of eminence in world affairs to address the students and staff members at a formal gathering in the Assembly Hall . . . Secondly, a Memorial Entrance to the Library will be constructed which will be a dignified setting for the two Books of Remembrance and a constant reminder of Macdonald's war heroes."

Both plans came to fruition. Students, graduates, and staff members contributed the funds; the Memorial Entrance was built, and ten Addresses "such as to promote an intelligent understanding of world affairs by young Canadians and to inspire them to do their part toward the maintenance of freedom, tolerance, and the improvement of human relationships everywhere," have been given. Preparations are already underway for the eleventh Address.

Morrison Award to Macdonald Prof.

Prof. E. W. Crampton, Chairman of the Department of Nutrition, has been honoured by the American Society of Animal Production with its Morrison Award for outstanding contributions to the science of animal nutrition.

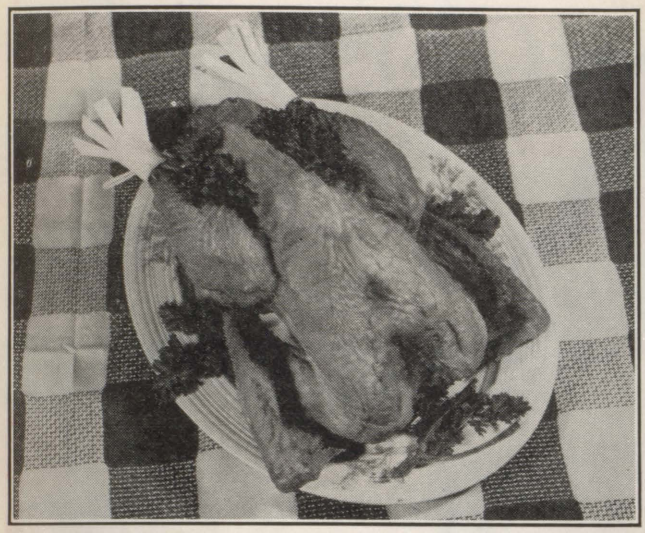
The award, which comprises a gold watch, a citation in the form of a plaque, and a cheque for $1,250, is made from a fund established by Prof. F. B. Morrison, retired professor of nutrition at Cornell University, and Mrs. Morrison, and each year's recipient is chosen from a list of names submitted to the Awards Committee of the Society.

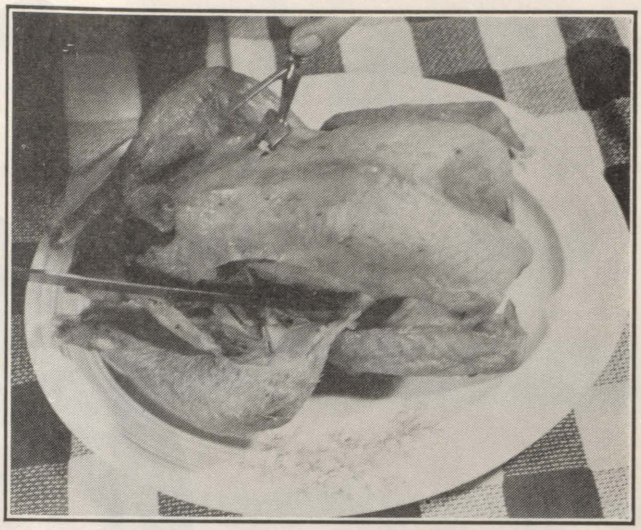
Prof. Crampton received his award at the meeting of the Society held in Chicago last month.

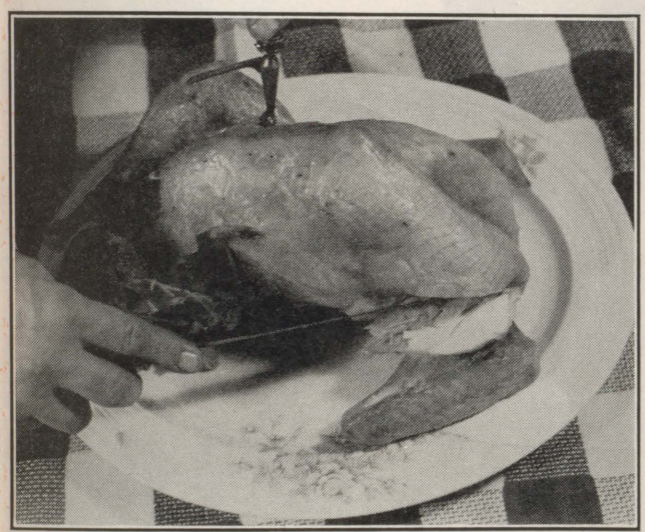
Carving Poultry - - -

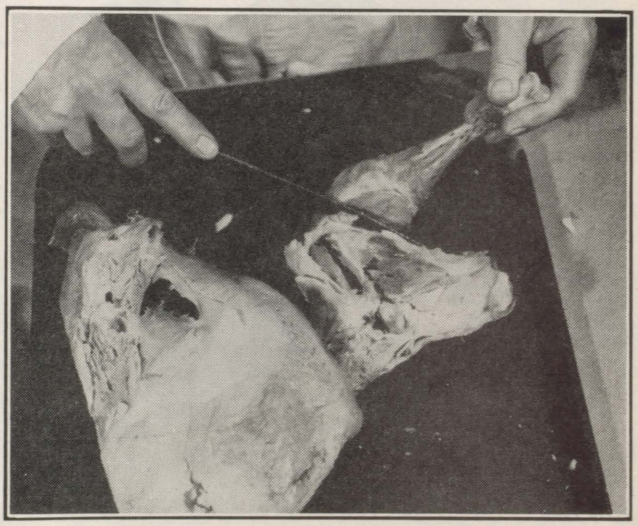
(Continued from page 7)

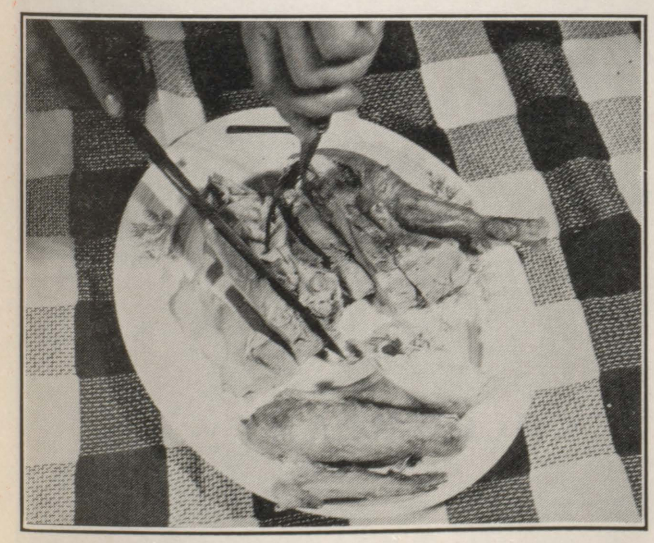
The photographs of the carving sequence were taken at Macdonald College and are reproduced by courtesy of the Provincial Publicity Office, Quebec Cine-Photo Service.

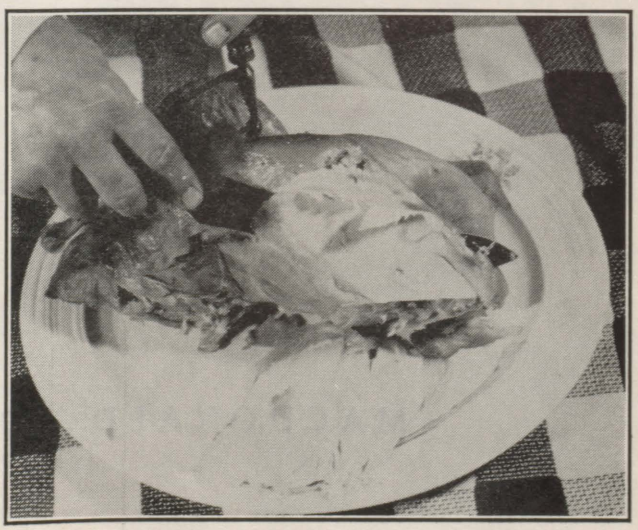












Season's Greetings

MACDONALD TOBACCO COMPANY